against 65 last year. The number of offences reported was 18,926 against 19,572 last year. There was decline in offences both under the Penal Code and under special and local laws. 1,470 appeals were preferred to the District Magistrate. 144 cases affecting 258 persons were tried and disposed of by the Sessions Courts. The number of appeals preferred to the Sessions Courts was 263.

Civil Justice.—The extent of original and appellate litigation showed a decided increase, the original institutions aggregating 44,512 against 40,313 and the appellate institutions aggregating 47,418 against 43,258. The disposals of original suits in the Munsiffs' Courts exceeded those of the previous year by 4,128 and formed 81·26 per cent. of the total number for disposal as compared with 80·69 per cent. in the previous year. The disposals of original suits in the District Courts exceeded those of the previous year by 59, while those of appeals fell short of the institutions by 439 and formed 47·36 per cent. of the number for disposal against 55·28 per cent. in 1080. With a view to improve the tone and status of the bar, the rules regarding enrolment of High Court Vakils were revised so as to admit of Barristers-at-Law, attorneys of the British Indian High Courts and Graduates-in-Law alone being declared eligible for enrolment hereafter.

9. **Jails.**—The number of admissions to the Central Prison, Trivandrum, was 568. There were 26 deaths in the Prison Hospital. The death-rate was 3·42. This relatively high mortality is engaging the attention of Government. 7 prisoners were released on medical grounds, the number released last year being 2. One case of escape occurred during the year but it was followed by immediate capture. The new prison cells were completed and occupied at the beginning of the year. Extramural labour, except under special circumstances and on rare occasions, was abolished. The net profit from the jail manufactory during the year amounted to Rs. 9,552-13 chs.-3 cash, showing an increase of Rs. 804 over that of the previous year.

10. **Registration.**—The number of registration offices remained the same as during the last year *viz.*, 51. The number of documents presented for registration was 1,98,665 or 11,962 documents in excess of those presented during the last year. 96·9 per cent. of the documents registered related to immovable property. The number of wills registered was 217.

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